

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary
Cropland, Vegetable and Specialty Crop

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Cropland, Vegetable and Specialty Crop		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will this EQIP application correct deficiencies in agricultural waste or water quality oriented land management practice associated with one or more land units located in a watershed containing an agriculturally stressed segment of water identified on the State of Vermont 303(d) list of impaired waters, surface water source protection areas, or in a public wellhead protection area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will this treatment address a critical water quality resource concern on a farm located in the Lake Champlain or Lake Memphremagog watershed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will this application result in implementation of practices outlined in a recently completed or updated NMP?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will this application include practices and/or management changes that will provide benefits to soil quality where a documented soil quality resource concern exists?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does this application include at least one practice to assist the participant in converting to drip irrigation on 50% or more of their existing irrigated land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does this application include an improvement to air quality as a result of a replacement of an inefficient irrigation pump?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does this application include land management practices that will reduce soil erosion from above 'T' to 'T' or less?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does this application include land management practices that will reduce soil erosion by at least 2 tons per acre and to 'T' or less on cropland fields of 8% or greater slope?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the application include practices and/or management changes that will provide benefits to soil and water quality on land units which are currently managed as continuous annual cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Bennington Local Working Group	
1. Does this application address erosion or other water quality concerns occurring within 100 feet of a blue line stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does this application improve soil health with cover crop, mulching, crop rotation, and/or residue management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does this application include a buffer as recommended by a watershed, river corridor, or other plan	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

addressing water quality issues, or will a buffer be included for improved wildlife habitat?	
4. Does this application reduce the use of pesticides and/or nutrients?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does this application include practices which will improve availability of local foods for local markets for improved energy conservation (source to market distance of less than 25 miles)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Franklin and Grand Isle Local Working Group	
6. Does this application reduce soil erosion to below T by the installation of agronomic practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does this application improve soil condition by increasing organic matter?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does this application reduce sediment or nutrient loss from the edge of fields?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Does this application make a change in management to increase organic matter or reduce erosion through the adoption of seldom used practices such as cross slope tillage, reduced tillage, manure injection, strip cropping or the incorporation of grass waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Does this application include converting cropland to grass?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Poultney Mettawee Local Working Group	
11. Will this application include practices and/or management changes that will provide benefits to soil quality where a documented soil quality resource concern exists or where needed based on a soil health assessment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Will this application address soil erosion within 50' of a river corridor as delineated in a river corridor plan or within 100' of a blue line stream if there is no river corridor plan for the planned area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Does this application specifically include cover crops, no-till, reduced tillage or edge of field buffers?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Will this application be part of a farm plan for increased nutrient management planning (development or implementation of an NMP or nutrient management work with a trained consultant)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Will this application address recommendations of the South Lake nutrient workplan or PM Basin plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Rutland Local Working Group	
16. Will this application include practices and/or management changes that will provide benefits to soil quality where a documented soil quality resource concern exists or where needed based on a soil health assessment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Will this application address Soil Erosion occurring within 100' of a blue line stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Will this application Reduce pesticide use through Integrated Pest Management strategies, or will it reduce the use of nutrients through nutrient management plan strategies?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Will this application include buffers specified as a need in river corridor plan/other water quality management plans/ identified through monitoring and assessment, or if a buffer will be installed for improved wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. Will this application improve water use efficiency through the installation of a more efficient irrigation system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Ottauquechee Local Working Group	
21. Were conservation practices selected that help reduce nitrogen loading in any surface water in the Connecticut River Watershed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Are there practices in the application to address current crops produced on the land contributing to accelerated erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Does this application include a field border, riparian buffer, and/or a filter strip for improved wildlife habitat, improved water quality, and/or reduced soil erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
24. Will this application include crop rotation and/or cover crop to address pest management concerns, reduce soil erosion, and/or improve soil health?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. Does this application include practices which will improve availability and/or diversity of local foods for local markets for improved energy conservation (source to market distance of less than 25 miles)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Windham Local Working Group	
26. Will this application include practices that will help reduce nitrogen loading into surface waters that feed into the Connecticut River, reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers, or address soil quality resource concerns with cover crop and/or residue management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
27. Will this application improve water use efficiency through the installation of a more efficient	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

irrigation system?	
28. Will this application include buffers in order to enhance surface water quality and/or improve wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
29. Will this application improve soil health and/or decrease soil erosion through the implementation of cover crop and/or reduced tillage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. Will this application include practices that will improve nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Caledonia Local Working Group	
31. Does the application include practices that increase organic matter?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Does the application include practices that reduce nutrient runoff?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
33. Does the application control soil erosion by applying crop rotation or conversion to permanent grassland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
34. Does this application include practices that control pest and disease through non chemical methods?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. Will this application market its products within a 100 mile radius?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Lamoille Local Working Group	
36. Does this application make a change in management to increase organic matter or reduce erosion through the adoption of seldom used practices such as cross slope tillage, reduced tillage, manure injection, strip cropping or the incorporation of grass waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
37. Does this application include practices that will result in a 35 foot buffer along waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
38. Does this application reduce soil erosion to below T by the installation of agronomic practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
39. Does this application address sheet, rill and/or gully erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
40. Does this application include converting continuous corn (10 years or more) to long term pasture or grazing (512)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Orleans Local Working Group	
41. Is this application within the Mud Creek, Stern s Brook, Black River, or Johns River watersheds?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
42. Does this application address stream bank erosion control (riparian buffers, crop set-back)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
43. Does this application include practices that increase Soil Organic matter?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
44. Does this application include practices that promote manure incorporation on hay and annual cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
45. Will this application include practices that will address soil compaction?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
White River Local Working Group	
46. Will this application include practices that include manure injection including the use of an aerator on corn and hayland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
47. Will this application include practices that address soil compaction or related agricultural runoff issues?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
48. Will this application include practices that install grass filter strips or riparian Forested buffers to address erosion or nutrient runoff?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
49. Does this application include practices that will enhance soil quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
50. Will this application include practices that manage nitrogen and other ag runoff related nutrients into the Conn. River?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Otter Creek Local Working Group	
51. Will this EQIP application reduce soil erosion and enhance soil quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
52. Will this EQIP application reduce phosphorus runoff by addressing alternative manure application methods including direct manure incorporation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
53. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by addressing field borders-386?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
54. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by addressing ephemeral gully erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
55. As a component of an IPM system, will this EQIP application result in reduced pesticide use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Winooski Local Working Group	
56. Will this application provide benefits to soil quality through any of the following: cover crops (340),	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

improved tillage practices (345 or 329), or seeding to perennial forage crops (512)?	
57. Will this application reduce erosion from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a watershed identified on the State of Vermont 303(d) list of impaired waters?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
58. Will this project help the applicant to reduce their use of fertilizers, chemicals, or pesticides?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
59. Does this application provide assurances for the creation, enhancement, or protection of cropland buffers?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
60. Is this project part of a LTP or NMP?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Essex Local Working Group	
61. Does this application include practices that increase soil organic matter?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
62. Does the application include practices that reduce nutrient runoff?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
63. Does the application control soil erosion by applying crop rotation or conversion to permanent grassland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
64. Does the application include practices that control pests and disease through non chemical methods?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
65. Will the applicant market its products within a 100 mile radius?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: